



**Department of Public Works  
Safety, Security and Training Division**

# Safety Moment



## **Wet Weather Safety Tips**

As more rainy days are in the forecast, be especially mindful of your safety while walking, driving and being outdoors. Being alert of your surrounding and ongoing conditions will help you avoid mishap and possible injury during wet weather.

As always, avoid cell phones and texting while on the move.

## **Driving**

- Think. When conditions are less than ideal, drivers need to stay alert and focused on what's going on around them.
- Slow down. Obey the speed limit, and drive slower in the rain. The roads are very slick when wet.
- Turn on your headlights when driving in rainy weather.
- Keep a safe distance between you and the vehicle in front of you. Increase following distance and eye lead time.
- Make sure the windshield wipers are in proper working order.
- Read the signs – Never drive through moving water if you can't see the ground through it. Do not drive around barricades, they are there for your safety.
- Watch out for pedestrians.

## **Walking**

- Wear shoes with good traction. Avoid high heels.
- Keep a reasonably slow walking pace and don't turn sharply.
- When navigating parking lots and sidewalks, keep your hands free as much as possible to help you maintain balance.
- Walk on designated pathways. Avoid taking shortcuts, as they may be slippery.
- When using stairwells, be sure to hold the handrail.
- When coming indoors from wet weather, wipe your shoes on a doormat to avoid tracking wetness in the building.



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## When Outside

- Avoid areas subject to sudden flooding.
- If you are caught outdoors during a heavy rain and flood climb to high ground and stay there.
- Stay back from rushing water, as during flash floods water can increase suddenly.
- If you come upon a flowing stream where water is above your ankles, STOP! Turn around and go another way.
- Don't walk through flooded areas. As little as 6 inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.
- Stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires. Electrocutation is another major source of deaths in floods. Electric current passes easily through water.

